

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TANANA 02047 181029Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NASA-01 OES-06 MC-02 ACDA-07 XMB-02
AID-05 L-03 OMB-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 FEA-01
DODE-00 EB-07 NRC-05 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ERDA-05
CIAE-00 COME-00 /086 W
----- 056067 /13

P 180840Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8685

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 2047

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MA, US
SUBJECT: GDRM RESPONDS TO OUR AIDE-MEMOIRE WITH NEW PROPOSITION

REF: TANANARIVE 1987

1. EARLIER IN WEEK SOLOFOSON HAD LET ME KNOW THAT THERE WOULD BE NO REPLY TO OUR AIDE MEMOIRE O F DECEMBER 8 BEFORE THE END OF THE THE CHRISTMAS PERIODS. WHEN I CALLED HIM DECEMBER 17 TO SAY GOODBYE BEFORE TAKING TWO WEEKS ANNUAL LEAVE, HE SUGGESTED I COME AROUND DECEMBER 18 TO TALK.OUR MEETING WAS BRIEF. HE SAID THAT THEY (PRESUMABLY JUST RATSIRAKA AND SOLOFOSON) HAD STUDIED OUR AIDE MEMOIRE AND WISH TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING NEW FOUR-POINT PROPOSITION: (A) AS INDICATED EARLIER, QUESTION OF BACK RENT FOR 1963-73 IS TO BE FORGOTTEN; (B) AS FOR 1973-75, GDRM PROPOSES "PAYMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON BASIS OF \$100,000 PER YEAR", I.E., TOTAL OF \$200,000; (C) USG MUST CONSIDER THAT \$100,000 PER YEAR PAYMENT FOR 1973-75 WOULD COMPENSATE FOR BADLY NEEDED MAINTENANCE AND PARTS (ALL IMPORTED FROM US) FOR EQUIPMENT THAT USG, UNDER ITS PROPOSITION, WOULD TURN OVER TO GDRM; AND (4) WHEN TWO SIDES HAVE MADE FINAL AGREEMENT, NASA TECHNICIANS WILL BE WELCOME TO VISIT NASA STATION TO MAKE PLANS FOR SHIPMENT OF TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT AND TURNOVER OF REST TO GDRM.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TANANA 02047 181029Z

2. AGAIN, SOLOFOSON DID NOT MENTION PURCHASE OF HERCULES AIRCRAFT. I MADE REFERENCE, HOWEVER, TO FACT THAT ESSO REPS HAD BEEN IN TANANARIVE THIS WEEK AND THAT WE HOPE MORE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS/NEGOTIATIONS WILL COMMENCE IN FEBRUARY. I ADDED THAT USG IS LOOMING FOR AN EQUITABLE SETTLEMENT BE-

TWEEN USG AND OIL COMPANIES AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF ITS GOOD INTENTIONS IN ATTEMPTING TO RESTORE BETTWE US-GDRM RELATIONS. HE SIAD, VAGUELY, THAT HE FORESAW NO POROBLEMS IN THAT REGRDS.

M I SUGGESTED TO SOLOFOSON PERHAPS I SHOULD NOT DEPART THIS WEEKEND AS PLANNED, BUT HE SAID THAT NEXT MOVE IS UP TO USG AND, BECAUSE OF CELEBRATIONS HERE NEXT WEEK, GDRM REACTION TO OUR NEXT REPLY COULD NOT OCCUR BEFORE JANUARY.

4. AFTER SEEING SOLOFOSON, I DROPPED IN ON CHIEF OF PROTOCOL. AS I EXPECTED, FOREIGNINISTER IS NOT AWARE OF MY DISCUSSIONS WITH SOLOFOSON, EVEN THOUGH IN SEPTEMBER (BEFORE MY DISCUSSIONS WITH SOLOFOSON BEGAN) HE HAD BEEN ASKED BY RATSIRAKA TO DISCUSS NASA ISSUE WITH ME FOLLOWING RATSIRAKA'S DISCUSSION OF NASA WITH FORMER EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR.

5. COMMENT: GDRM'S REPLY TO OUR PROPOSAL REPRESENTS A CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION IN THEIR DEMANDS, I.E., FROM \$12 MILLION (OR A GIFT OF A HERCULES AIRCRAFT) DOWN TO \$200,000. IT IS OUR OPINION THAT THE NASA EQUIPMENT WE WILL BE DONATING IS INDEED IN NEED OF CONSIDERABLE MAINTENANCE AND NEW PARTS. AS AN EMPL, MOST OR ALL OF THE VEHICLES WILL NEED COMPLETE NEW SETS OF TIRES AND WE ESTIMATE THE COST (INCLUDING SHIPPING) TO BE NEAR \$10,000 FOR THAT ITEM ALONE. FACT THAT RATSIRAKA HAS NOT KEPT FOREIGN MINISTER INFORMED OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS REINFORCES OUR VIEW THAT RATSIRAKA HOPES TO SOLVE THE NASA ISSUE BEFORE GOING TO THE CSR WITH THE CASE.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TANANA 02047 181029Z

OTHERWISE , HE WOULD RISK AN OPEN CSR DISCUSSION DURING WHICH CERTAIN CSR MEMBERS ARE SURE TO ATTEMPT TO IMPEDE SUCH A SETTLEMENT CLOSER TO OUR TERMS THAN TO THE GDRM'S ORIGINAL TERMS.SHEINBAUM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AIDE MEMOIRES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, TRACKING STATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TANANA02047
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760466-0129
From: TANANARIVE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761229/aaaaazdg.tel
Line Count: 101
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TANANARIVE 1987
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <12 OCT 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GDRM RESPONDS TO OUR AIDE-MEMOIRE WITH NEW PROPOSITION
TAGS: PFOR, MA, US, (SOLOFOSON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006